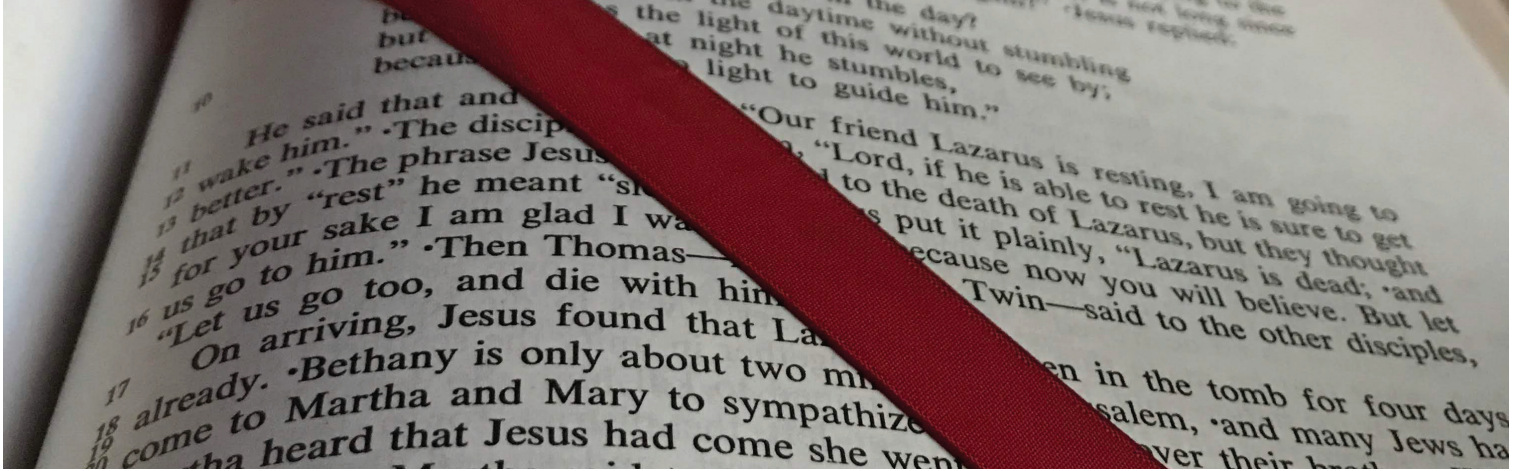


# Traveling the Way of Love



## Episode 7: LEARN

*Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.*  
– **John 14:23**

By reading and reflecting on Scripture, especially the life and teachings of Jesus, we draw near to God and God's word dwells in us. When we open our minds and hearts to Scripture, we learn to see God's story and God's activity in everyday life.

In this episode of *Traveling the Way of Love*, we talk with the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church. Known for his engaging style of preaching and teaching, Bishop Curry helps us to understand what exactly it means to learn on the Way of Love – and why it is so critical for us to undertake each of these practices together.

Throughout our time together, Bishop Curry walks us through not only the “why” of learning, but also the “how”. It can be overwhelming to dive into the Bible, and we may find ourselves confused, bewildered, challenged, or upset. This is part of the Christian life: understanding that we are not to master the word, but rather allow the Word to master us. Just like when the Gospel is brought into the midst of the congregation on Sunday mornings, we need to constantly reorient ourselves around the teachings of Jesus, the Word of God.

As you watch this seventh episode of *Traveling the Way of Love*, we invite you to commit to reading Scripture at least weekly – whether through a daily resource, like *Forward Day by Day* from Forward Movement, or a longer form, like *Sermons That Work Bible Studies*. Pray to see Scripture with new eyes, learning the stories and meanings as if for the first time.

Episode 7 was made possible by Church Publishing Inc. in partnership with The Episcopal Church Office of Communication.

## After watching **Traveling the Way of Love: Learn, consider engaging the Way of Love with one or more of these suggested practices.**

### Turn

Consider what changes you want to make in your life starting this week. Write out a favorite verse from Scripture to remind you of that change and keep it on your person. Read that verse with intention each morning and whenever you feel the temptation to revert to old ways of thinking.

### Learn

Visit [sermonsthatwork.org](http://sermonsthatwork.org) for resources offered by The Episcopal Church, including sermons, Bible studies, bulletin inserts, and more. Our Bible studies are written by Episcopalian seminarians and students at diocesan and regional schools for formation. Read this week's study and try to respond to the provided prompts.

### Pray

Pray the Collect for Proper 28, found on p. 236 of the Book of Common Prayer: "Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen."

### Worship

This week at worship, try to listen intently to the lections without reading along from a bulletin. Employ your imagination, listening intently to the words being spoken and picturing what is happening in the stories. Do you enjoy this method of learning? Do you find it easy or difficult?

### Bless

Read Acts 8:29-31 and research your congregation's faith formation opportunities. "The Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard [the Ethiopian eunuch] reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him."

### Go

Part of Going on the Way of Love is listening deeply. Read the Anglican Communion's paper on *Lectio Divina* at [iam.ec/lectiodivina](http://iam.ec/lectiodivina) and try the practice, listening intently for God to be revealed in the Biblical text.

### Rest

Listen to Resting in and with the Land, an episode from The Way of Love with Bishop Michael Curry podcast: [iam.ec/restpodcast](http://iam.ec/restpodcast). In the last half of this episode, the Rev. Nurya Love Parish explores some of the Biblical mandates for rest. Which of these do you find most convincing? How does the practice of rest change for you when it is presented as a commandment from God?

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## OTHER RESOURCES:

**Download** the Small Group Reflection Guide at [iam.ec/learnreflection](http://iam.ec/learnreflection) and use it with your community.

**Find resources** from Church Publishing to help you practice learning on your own or with your small group at [churchpublishing.org](http://churchpublishing.org)

**Commit to a practice** of daily prayer and learning, using a resource like Forward Day by Day at [prayer.forwardmovement.org](http://prayer.forwardmovement.org)

**Learn more** about the Way of Love at [episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove](http://episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove)